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CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Morning business is closed.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 1158, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1158) making emergency supplemental appropriations for additional disaster assistance and making rescissions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Hatfield amendment No. 420, in the nature of a substitute.

D'Amato amendment No. 427 (to amendment No. 420) to require congressional approval of aggregate annual assistance to any foreign entity using the exchange stabilization fund established under section 5302 of title 31, United States Code, in an amount that exceeds \$5 billion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the D'Amato amendment is temporarily laid aside in order to consider an amendment to be offered by the minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 445

(Purpose: To propose a substitute)

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. DASCHLE], for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. KOHL, proposes an amendment numbered 445.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, we have had a good debate now for the last couple of days on the issue of rescissions and the need to provide supplemental funding for the Federal Emergency Management Administration, FEMA.

What we have not had a good debate about, however, is about priorities, and about values, what it is we ought to do with the resources, as limited as they are, that we have available.

It is our view we ought to have a debate of that kind, and we ought to consider where it is we want to put resources, how it is we want to direct those resources to affect the greatest number of people and do the most good.

That is what this amendment intends to do. This amendment recognizes that there really is a twofold purpose in what it is we are trying to do with this bill.

We are obviously trying to ensure that FEMA has the adequate resources necessary to continue the extraordinary job that they do in providing emergency assistance to communities all over the country. But we are also very sensitive to the need to continue to move ahead with meaningful deficit reduction.

This session of Congress has been devoted in large measure to procedural questions about how it is we bring down the debt. I am very disappointed by the fact that, frankly, our best procedural effort to do that in a meaningful way, a budget resolution, which is required from the Budget Committee tomorrow, will not occur at the time required by law.

While we talked about procedure, the majority has been unwilling so far to use the procedure we already have to do exactly what we say we need to do.

Therefore, Mr. President, I am disappointed that we have failed to produce the budget resolution necessary to accomplish what we say we really need here.

Mr. President, the issue of priorities, as we consider deficit reduction, brings Members to the floor on many occasions. Again, it does this morning. We recognize while we need to reduce the deficit, we also recognize that the long-term deficit is going to be determined in part by the needs of Americans who may depend upon the Federal Government, and by the ability they have to go out and become meaningful, productive, taxpaying citizens.

The only way we can ensure working families have the capacity to be productive, taxpaying citizens, is that we invest in their future with what limited resources we have.

The amendment that I am proposing this morning—and supported, I would say, by the overwhelming majority if not all of our colleagues on the Democratic side—is an amendment that simply says "Whatever else we do to reduce the deficit, the one thing we ought to do is to be cognizant of how important it is that we protect our children and the investment that we need to make in children."

This amendment would simply allow Members to tell 1 million children across the country that it is our intention to help them, that it is our commitment to them and to deficit reduction, both, that we hope to articulate in this amendment.

Our legislation would provide protection for 5,000 children when it comes to child care. We want to tell working families that we want them to go out there and do the best they can to generate the income that their talents will allow, and we will try to assist where it can be provided with the child care needs they have, in order to be a productive and an involved working citizen.

Child care is the first installment of a multiple array of tools that can help working families do their job better. The same in Head Start. We want to protect 9,000 children in the Head Start Program who otherwise will be cut off, who otherwise will not have the opportunity to begin their early childhood development in a meaningful way, and to ensure that when the time comes they can become good students, good working people and good family members. That is what Head Start does. And we are hoping to protect the 9,000 people who otherwise will be cut out, without the advantages of this amendment.

We are also telling those young adults, those young Americans who want very much to be able to go to college and at the same time help their country, that we remember them as we change our deficit priorities. We want to tell 36,000 young people that it is important to go out through national service and develop the capacity they need, to go to college, to learn skills, to do the things necessary to become important and taxpaying citizens in this country.

No one denies the incredible impact that the Women, Infants, and Children Program has. We will tell 70,000 mothers and children that we will help them as well, not by increasing the deficit.

I emphasize here that this amendment is completely paid for by shifting priorities to allow Congress to reduce the deficit but protect women, infants, and children in the program that has demonstrated a remarkable capacity to assist young families as they begin to meet the challenges of life.

We also recognize that school is critical. If we are going to invest properly in families, in working families, we have to ensure that our investment in education is adequately provided.

Aid to schools, impact aid, is of critical importance. And under the pending bill, \$16 million overall will be lost. In my State of South Dakota, over one-half million dollars would be lost. The impact that will have on schools that rely upon this funding, as I indicated